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a light transmitting member;

5 transmitting member with light; and

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4. A device according to claim 3, wherein
said transparent member has elasticity, and

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said moving mechanism changes a contact area between said transparent member and said light transmitting member in the contact state by deforming said transparent member.

5 5. A device according to claim 1, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light transmitted through said interface.

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10 6. A device according to claim 1, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light totally reflected by said interface.

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7. A device according to claim 1, further comprising a scattering surface for scattering output light from said light transmitting member.

15 8. A display device comprising:
a light transmitting member;
a light source for irradiating said light transmitting member with light; and

20 a plurality of control mechanisms arrayed on said light transmitting member to switch between total reflection and transmission the behavior of light, incident into said light transmitting member from said light source, at an interface between said light transmitting member and an external region adjacent to said light transmitting member,

25 wherein at least a portion of the light emitted by said light source to irradiate said light transmitting member is output as a light component having

1. The first part of the document is a list of references. The references are listed in two columns. The first column contains references 1 through 10, and the second column contains references 11 through 20. The references are as follows:

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~~a light transmitting member;
a light transmitting material;
a light source for irradiating said light
transmitting member with light; and~~

5 a control mechanism for changing a contact state
of said light transmitting material with respect to
said light transmitting member on an optical path of
the light,

wherein at least a portion of the light emitted by
10 said light source to irradiate said light transmitting
member is output as a light component having
directivity from said light transmitting member, and
said light component is used to display images.

16. A device according to claim 15, wherein said
15 control mechanism changes a contact area of said light
transmitting material with respect to said light
transmitting member on the optical path of the light.

17. A device according to claim 15, wherein said light transmitting material is a solid.

20 18. A device according to claim 17, wherein said
light transmitting material is an elastic material.

19. A device according to claim 15, wherein images
are displayed by using an intensity change of light
transmitted through an interface at which said light
transmitting material is in contact with said light
transmitting member.

20. A device according to claim 15, wherein images

21. A device according to claim 15, further comprising a scattering surface for scattering output light from said light transmitting member.

a light transmitting member;

a light source for irradiating said light transmitting member with light; and

wherein at least a portion of the light emitted by said light source to irradiate said light transmitting member is output as a light component having directivity from said light transmitting member, and said light component is used to display images.

24. A device according to claim 22, wherein said light transmitting material is a solid.

25. A device according to claim 23, wherein said light transmitting material is an elastic material.

5 26. A device according to claim 22, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light transmitted through an interface at which said light transmitting material is in contact with said light transmitting member.

10 27. A device according to claim 22, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light reflected by an interface at which said light transmitting material is in contact with said light transmitting member.

15 28. A device according to claim 22, further comprising a scattering surface for scattering output light from said light transmitting member.

29. A display device comprising:

a plate-like light transmitting member;

20 a light source placed on the side of one principle surface of said light transmitting member to irradiate the one principle surface with light;

a transparent member capable of moving close to and away from the other principle surface of said light transmitting member; and

25 a moving mechanism for changing the state of said transparent member with respect to the other principle

surface of said light transmitting member between a contact state and a separated state.

30. A device according to claim 29, wherein said transparent member has elasticity, and said moving mechanism changes a contact area between said transparent member and said light transmitting member in the contact state by deforming said transparent member.

31. A device according to claim 29, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light emerging from the other principle surface of said light transmitting member.

32. A device according to claim 29, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light emerging from the one principle surface of said light transmitting member.

33. A device according to claim 29, further comprising a scattering surface for scattering light emerging from said light transmitting member.

34. A display device comprising:
a plate-like light transmitting member;
a light source placed on the side of one principle surface of said light transmitting member to irradiate the one principle surface with light;
a plurality of transparent members capable of moving close to and away from the other principle surface of said light transmitting member; and

a plurality of moving mechanisms for changing the states of said plurality of transparent members with respect to the other principle surface of said light transmitting member between a contact state and a separated state.

35. A device according to claim 34, wherein said plurality of transparent members have elasticity, and

said plurality of moving mechanisms change contact areas between said plurality of transparent members and said light transmitting member in the contact state by deforming said plurality of transparent members.

36. A device according to claim 34, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light emerging from the other principle surface of said light transmitting member.

37. A device according to claim 34, wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of light emerging from the one principle surface of said light transmitting member.

38. A device according to claim 34, further comprising a scattering surface for scattering light emerging from said light transmitting member.

39. A display device comprising:
a light transmitting member;
a light source for irradiating said light transmitting member with light;

a supply mechanism for supplying a liquid onto
said light transmitting member; and

a removal mechanism for removing the liquid
supplied onto said light transmitting member.

5 40. A device according to claim 39, further
comprising, as said supply mechanism and said removal
mechanism, a control mechanism for supplying a liquid
onto said light transmitting member and removing the
liquid supplied onto said light transmitting member.

10 41. A device according to claim 39, wherein images
are displayed by using an intensity change of light
entering from said light transmitting member into the
liquid supplied onto said light transmitting member.

15 42. A device according to claim 39, wherein images
are displayed by using an intensity change of light
emerging from said light transmitting member without
entering the liquid supplied onto said light
transmitting member.

20 43. A device according to claim 39, further
comprising a scattering surface for scattering output
light from said light transmitting member.

25 44. A display device comprising:
a light transmitting member;
a light source for irradiating said light
transmitting member with light;

a plurality of supply mechanisms for supplying a
liquid onto said light transmitting member; and

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interface and light totally reflected by said interface is output as a light component having directivity from said light transmitting member, and said light component is used to display images.

5 50. A display method comprising the step of irradiating a light transmitting member with light from a light source and changing a contact state of a light transmitting material with respect to said light transmitting member on an optical path of the light,

10 wherein at least a portion of the light incident into said light transmitting member from said light source is output as a light component having directivity from said light transmitting member, and said light component is used to display images.

15 51. A display method comprising the step of irradiating one principle surface of a plate-like light transmitting member with light from a light source and moving a transparent member into contact with and away from the other principle surface of said light transmitting member,

20 wherein images are displayed by using an intensity change of output light from said light transmitting member, which occurs when said transparent member is moved.

25 52. A display method comprising the steps of supplying a liquid onto a light transmitting member while irradiating said light transmitting member with

